

Applicant: S. Jayaraman  
Application No.: 09/941,327  
Examiner: V. Bui

### Amendments to the Claims

1-22. (Canceled)

23. (Previously presented) A tubular stent comprising:

a longitudinal cylindrical base structure having a first end portion, a second end portion, and a mid-portion interposed between the first and second end portions, the first and second end portions having a first pattern and the mid portion having a second pattern different from the first pattern, the second pattern including a plurality of articulations,

a plurality of linear strut members connecting the mid portion to the first and second end portions, wherein the mid portion includes a plurality of articulations; and

a surface coating having at least two layers coating the longitudinal cylindrical base structure, wherein the surface coating includes a drug inhibiting restenosis, with the drug having a higher concentration at the first and second end portions than at the mid portion.

24. (Previously presented) The tubular stent of claim 23, wherein the plurality of articulations are a plurality of undulating members.

25. (Previously presented) The tubular stent of claim 23, wherein the first pattern is an open cell design and the second pattern is a closed cell design.

26. (Previously presented) The tubular stent of claim 23, wherein the longitudinal cylindrical base structure is made of a metal.

27. (Withdrawn) The tubular stent of claim 23, wherein the longitudinal cylindrical base structure has a thickness greater at the first and second end portions than at the mid portion.

28. (Canceled)

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29. (Currently amended) The tubular stent of claim 23, wherein the at least two layers comprise a material selected from the group consisting of metallic material, biological material, radiopaque material, synthetic material, polymeric material, and combinations thereof.

30. (Withdrawn) The tubular stent of claim 23, wherein the at least two layers have a thickness greater on the first and second end portions than on the mid portion.

31. (Currently amended) The tubular stent of ~~claim~~ claims 23, wherein the at least two layers have a thickness of less than about 10 micron.

32-36. (Canceled)

37. (Previously presented) The tubular stent of claim 23, wherein the longitudinal cylindrical base structure has a thickness about twenty-five percent greater at the first and second end portions than at the mid portion.